



**Australian Government**

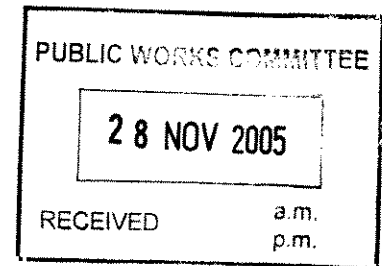
**Department of Defence  
Corporate Services &  
Infrastructure Group**

SUBMISSION .....5.....

Brigadier Peter (Hutch) Hutchinson  
Director General Infrastructure Asset  
Development  
BP-1-B001  
Department of Defence  
CANBERRA ACT 2600  
peter.hutchinson@defence.gov.au  
Tel: 02 6266 8101  
Fax: 02 6266 8103

DGIAD/ OUT /2005/218

**Ms Vivienne Courto**  
Inquiry Secretary  
Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works  
House of Representatives  
Parliament of Australia  
CANBERRA ACT 2600



Dear Ms Courto,

**RESPONSE TO THARAWAL LOCAL ABORIGINAL LAND COUNCIL**

The Department of Defence would like to take the opportunity to reply to the submission of the Tharawal Local Aboriginal Land Council dated 9<sup>th</sup> November 2005 concerning the Relocation of the 171<sup>st</sup> Aviation Squadron to Holsworthy Barracks. It remains the clear intention of the Department of Defence to respect and preserve the heritage and the environment of the area, while at the same time achieving the objectives of national security.

The submission from the Tharawal Local Aboriginal Land Council highlights the importance of the Holsworthy Barracks as an area of high Aboriginal cultural significance, namely the Cubbitch Barta National Estate Area. The role of Holsworthy Army Base has not changed over the years; that is, it exists for national Defence purposes. While the internal organisation of the base may change over time, the fundamental purpose of the base has not changed. The vast majority of the work proposed is on existing developed areas of the barracks and will not effect areas of cultural significance.

Helicopters have regularly operated from Holsworthy Barracks since 1974. All of the works at Holsworthy are part of the ongoing and essential modernisation of the Australian Defence Force. Defence respects the cultural heritage of the range area and will adopt procedures to minimize the impact of the aviation squadron.

The Department of Defence will contact the Tharawal Local Aboriginal Land Council to discuss the details of the Relocation of the 171<sup>st</sup> Aviation Squadron to Holsworthy Barracks.

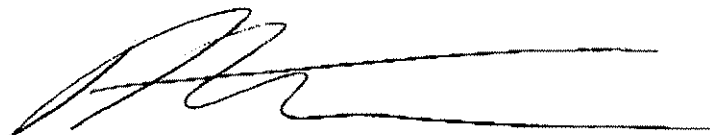
Yours sincerely,

**P.J. Hutchinson, DSC**  
Brigadier

25<sup>th</sup> November 2005

The Department of Defence will contact Mr Mark Carlon of the Sutherland Shire Council to discuss the details of the Relocation of the 171<sup>st</sup> Aviation Squadron to Holsworthy Barracks.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'P.J. Hutchinson', written over a horizontal line.

**P.J. Hutchinson, DSC**  
Brigadier

25<sup>th</sup> November 2005